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## Memo to Suitcase Stuffers

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## Memo to: Suitcase Stuffers

by Mary Ellen Muckenhirn, H. Ed. 3

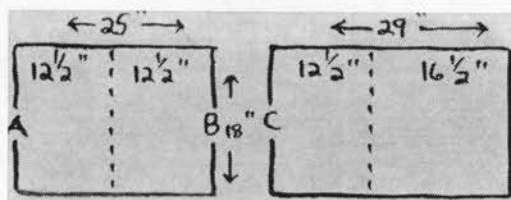
You regretfully hang that bouffant formal in the closet in favor of a more versatile dress and decide that you just can't eliminate another thing from your travel wardrobe. You're fairly certain that you haven't exceeded the weight limit set by most airlines, but now there's the problem of getting the clothes into one or two suitcases and having them come out wearable.

Planning your packing may seem to be a chore which interrupts the romance of travel at the outset of your trip, but it will help you en route by minimizing the time you spend ironing and worrying and "digging." Try these packing tips.

1. Pack the heaviest items at the bottom of the suitcase to avoid in-transit shifting.
2. Fold skirts and dresses near the waistline, not at the hem.
3. Pad each fold with tissue paper.
4. Protect shirt collars by folding the shirt-tail up over the front of the shirt and tucking it inside, back of the collar.
5. Pack sleeping garments and slippers last so that they will be easily accessible.
6. Save space by stuffing shoes with handkerchiefs and socks.
7. Cover shoes to avoid soiling other clothing.

Here is a storage bag that you can make to keep jewelry, gloves and cosmetics from being lost in a corner of your suitcase. Start with a half yard of 54" plastic and one package of bias cotton binding.

Cut the plastic into two pieces, one 25" long and the other 29" long.



Sew binding on edges A, B and C, stretching it slightly while applying. Match edges A and C, and fold on dotted lines to form 12 1/2" deep pockets. Pin together at the folded edge and at the sides. Sew a 69" strip of binding around the outside, and the practical bag, complete with flap, is ready for any items you want to keep separate in your suitcase.

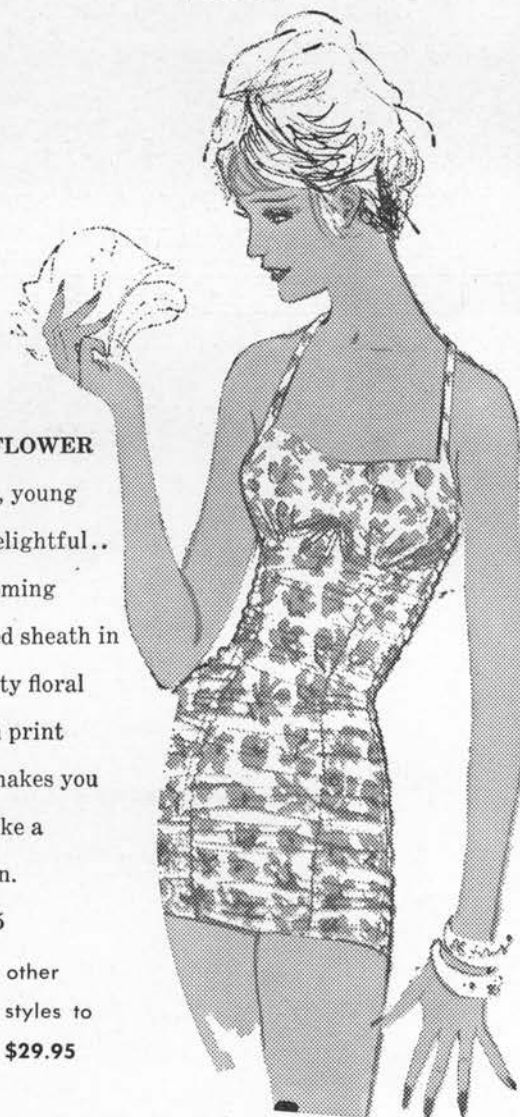
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